

CLINTON/JACKSON DECAT BOARD MEETING

August 17, 2012

DeWitt, Iowa

Board Members Present: Judge Phil Tabor, Kathy Biscontine, Mary Drees, Jill Davisson, Larry Koos, Dr. Mike Healy and Jenny Kreiter, Coordinator.

Board Members Excused: Scott Hobart, Cheryl Curl, Lonnie Luepker, Charleen Smith

Quorum having been established, Judge Tabor called the meeting to order at 1:10 PM.

Review of 5-25-12 Minutes:

Judge Tabor moved to approve the minutes. Kathy Biscontine seconded. Motion carried. A copy is attached to these minutes.

Review of 2012 Budget:

Jenny presented the year end 2012 budget. Due to a legislation the DECAT Board will be able to carry forward funds for two years starting this fiscal year (FY13). A copy is attached to these minutes.

Review of FY13 Budget:

Jenny presented the FY13 budget to the Board Members. The Board Members reviewed and discussed this document. Larry Koos moved to accept the budget as presented. Dr. Mike Healy seconded. Motion carried. A copy is attached to these minutes.

4th Quarter Contract Updates:

The Board Members reviewed and discussed the 4th quarter contract document and report update. Jenny is looking into a different billing process for the Victim Restitution Contract. Kathy Biscontine mentioned that many youth who could have utilized that contract were fifteen years old and were not old enough to work. The Family Support Fund has been amended into the Social Work Assistant Contract and is a reimbursement to LSI. The Parent Partner Program budget will be amended later in the year as we are looking at increasing Parent Partners from six to eight. The Board Members reviewed Step In Program data for May, June and July. It looks like referrals are down, Kathy Biscontine did mention that this is typical for the summer months. Jenny has talked with Vickie Miene and we will be meeting with LSI staff to develop a plan to address the low referral numbers. Currently the Step In Program has three case workers and one supervisor. A brief discussion was held around lack of services for adolescents the Juvenile Court System.

Community Planning Update:

Jenny presented the Board Members with a two page informational hand out which reviewed Iowa's Blue Print for Forever Families 2011. The Board Members reviewed and discussed Iowa's Permanency Vision, framework to guide the work of multiple partner and stakeholders and the fifth key principle to guide everyday practice. We then reviewed our District Team Report dated July 24, 2012 which was

developed and reported on at a District Team Training. The Board Members reviewed goals, identified information, action, training and short term and long term plans for moving forward. Judge Tabor explained to the Board Members the identified court room team and what the team members' roles are in CINA cases and delinquent cases. Judge Tabor emphasized the importance of the court room team pulling together early in cases which results in better outcomes for children in foster care. He reported that we have good court room teams in Clinton and Jackson Counties. Dr. Mike Healy offered information about teacher's roles in supporting a child who is foster care. He talked about the level of commitment teachers make to support all children in the education system. The Board Members agreed that it is important for teachers to reach out to County Attorneys, Judges, DHS workers and Court Appointed Advocates when they have information to share about children they are teaching who are foster children.

Coordinator Monthly Activity Report

Jenny presented this report. A copy is attached to these minutes.

New Business

The Board Members discussed having a youth come and talk about their experience in the foster care system. Dr. Mike Healy mentioned that preparing those youth who are in foster care to transition into adulthood is very important and should be emphasized. The Board Members briefly discussed inviting legislator's to our meeting and learning more about the impact Parent Partners have on parents whose children are currently in foster care. Jenny will follow through with Board Members request and invite them to attend our next two Board Meetings.

Kathy Biscontine announced that she will be retiring soon. We thanked her for all her work in our community and on this Board.

Next meeting date:

Our next meeting will be November 9, 2012. Jenny will send out reminders closer to the meeting date.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:20PM by Jill Davisson.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Kreiter
Clinton/Jackson DECAT Coordinator